

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MC-01 SAJ-01

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6984

INFO SECDEF

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

CINCUSNAVEUR

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USNMR SHAPE

USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, US

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF SIPRI REPORT ON US SUBMARINE
DETECTION SYSTEMS

1. JANUARY 3 GUARDIAN GAVE PROMINENCE TO STORY BY
DEFENSE CORRESPONDENT DAVID FAIRHALL ON RECENTLY PUB-
LISHED STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(SIPRI) ON US SUBMARINE DETECTION DEVICES. STORY EM-
PHASIZES POINT THAT "DANGEROUS GROWTH OF COMPUTER-LINKED
SONARS SPREADS INTO THE OCEANS, AND IS MATCHED BY A
RUSSIAN VARIETY, IT WILL SOON THREATEN THE HITHERTO IN-
VULNERABLE STRATEGIC MISSILE SUBMARINE..."

2. IN EDITORIAL IN SAME ISSUE, GUARDIAN MENTIONS AFAR'
CAESAR, COLOSSUS AND PLANNED SUSPENDED ARRAY SYSTEM (SAS)
AS CODE NAMES USED BY USN FOR SONAR ARRAYS. GUARDIAN
SUGGESTS THAT FUTURE SALT AGREEMENTS SHOULD COVER ASW.
BEST HOPE, GUARDIAN SAYS, IS DEVELOPMENT OF LONGER RANGE
MISSILES SO THAT SUBMARINES WILL REMAIN UNDETECTABLE AND
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VALID AS DETERRENT.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT WE HAVE SEEN FOR SOME TIME ON STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS OF IMPROVED ASW. BUT INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES RECENTLY HAD A LUNCHEON MEETING ON SUBJECT. WITH PUBLICATION SIPRI REPORT WE EXPECT INCREASING INTEREST THIS SUBJECT ON PART OF OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL UK STRATEGIC STUDIES COMMUNITY.

SPIERS

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